(c) if so, the details thereof and what action is being taken by the railway authorities;

(d) whether it is also a fact that because of incomplete work and unprotected ditches on the platform, many railway commuters met with the accidents; and

(e) if so, whether the Railways consider to give compensation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The stipulated date of completion is 23.6.2007.

(b) There was no irregularity committed by the contractor. The work was delayed because the earlier contractor failed to execute the work due to steep price hike in steel during the contract period.

(c) The earlier contract has been terminated at the risk and cost of defaulter contractor and fresh tenders have been awarded. Action for recovery of risk and cost amount from the defaulter contractor has been initiated.

(d) No accident took place due to unprotected ditches on the platform. Proper barricading is done whenever any work is carried out on the platforms.

(e) Does not arise.

Second rail line between Kurla and Mahul

1919. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry propose to conduct a survey for a second line between Kurla and Mahul railway station to start a suburban service on this 22 kilometre route;

(b) if so, by when it would be surveyed;

(c) whether his Ministry would make provision for this rule in the supplementary railway budget for the year 2006-07 to be presented in July-August, 2006;

(d) how much provision was made for the various facilities for suburban passengers on all the suburban stations of both Central and Western Railway in the last five years; and

(e) whether his Ministry would consider to increase the amount under this head in the next year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Central Railway conducted the Preliminary Engineering-Cum-Traffic Survey for running suburban trains between Kurla and Mahul and submitted its report in the month of December, 2003.

(c) No such provision has been made.

(d) A provision of Rs. 63.86 crore was made for the various facilities for suburban passengers on all the suburban stations of both Central and Western Railway in the last five years.

(e) It would depend upon the requirement and availability of resources.

Extension of rail routes

1920. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether extension of rail routes has been finalized for the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) the total length of rail routes extended during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(d) the rail route extended to the State of Himachal Pradesh during the said period; and

(e) the amount spent on extension of rail routes during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) In the first four years of Tenth Five Year Plan i.e. from 2002-03 to 2005-06, 675 kms. of new rail line has been completed. During the year 2006-07, 550 kms. of new rail line is targeted for completion.

(c) During Ninth Five Year Plan, 662 kms. of new rail line had been completed.

(d) Nothing was added in Ninth Plan in Himachal Pradesh.

(e) An amount of Rs. 2925 crore had been spent on new line during Ninth Plan period.